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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Grainger Wind Symphony 25th Anniversary Gala Concert

The Grainger Wind Symphony is proud to announce its 25th Anniversary Gala Concert, with a daring program that showcases two pertinent and significant works of the 21st century.

The ambitious undertaking features Tolga Kashif's lavish *Queen Symphony* – a six-movement work based on the melodies of 1980s supergroup Queen - and the world premiere of *A Kiss Before the World's End: a concerto for viola and wind symphony*, written in honour of Daniel Pearl, the Wall Street Journal reporter tragically beheaded by Al-Qaeda in 2002.

This hails a major push by the Grainger Wind Symphony to entice a new audience, by taking a fresh perspective on the modern wind symphony.

Kashif's work, written for wind symphony and choir, has earned accolades for its grandiose scoring and lush soundscapes. It was nominated for Album of the Year in the 2003 Classical Brit Awards, and comparisons have been drawn with the works of John Williams and Philip Glass. This work will be presented in concert with Monash Chorale.

Australian composer Dr. Houston Dunleavy wrote *A Kiss before the World's End* in memory of friend and student Daniel Pearl, who was kidnapped and killed by Al-Qaeda in 2002 in Pakistan. The work combines elements of Hebrew folk melodies, Irish fiddling and jazz and modernist harmonies in a mashup of genres characteristic of Dunleavy's later works. For this performance the Grainger Wind Symphony will be joined by leading US viola player and international guest soloist Brett Deubner, who has been billed as "one of this generations' most accomplished violists".

The concert program is entitled "Queen Symphony featuring A Kiss Before the World's End". Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for concession and group bookings of 10 or more. To book tickets please visit the GWS shop at www.graingerwindsymphony.asn.au or alternatively contact our Secretary, Ruth Collins, on 0432 685 123

Established in 1986 and now celebrating its Silver Jubilee, The Grainger Wind Symphony is one of Victoria's most respected symphonic wind bands. Made up of a diverse range of performers, all of whom share a passion for creating quality wind band music, the group is committed to its goals of performance, music education and community involvement. Performing throughout the Melbourne metropolitan area under the baton of Maestro Roland Yeung, the group also presents a variety of educational programs for students including concerts, clinics and an annual scholarship. Its programs are made possible by major sponsors Allans Music + Billy Hydes, Levante and Ambra.